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# Security Council

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## Letter dated 30 March 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the communiqué reporting on the meeting held on 20 March 2006 and presided over by the Head of State, Joseph Kabila, in which the Supreme Defence Council recommended endorsing the initiative for the establishment of a European Union force to reinforce the security arrangements for the electoral process (see annex).

The Democratic Republic of the Congo responds affirmatively to the request made on 27 December 2005 by the United Nations for the deployment of such a force, which would provide support to the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo throughout the period of the national elections.

For your information, an identical copy of this letter has been sent to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

I should appreciate it if you would circulate this letter and its annex as Security Council documents.

(*Signed*) Atoki **Ileka**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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## Annex to the letter dated 30 March 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

## Press communiqué of the Supreme Defence Council

**(Palais de la Nation, Kinshasa, Monday, 20 March 2006)**

At a meeting held on Monday, 20 March, which was presided over by the Head of State, His Excellency Joseph Kabila, the Supreme Defence Council considered, inter alia, the question of the establishment of a European military contingent at the request of the United Nations.

The Supreme Defence Council began by reaffirming its confidence in the security arrangements already set up by the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the National Police to ensure security throughout the country before, during and after the elections.

In that connection, a detailed report was made by the Minister of Defence and the Chief of General Staff on the progress of the operation for the integration of our troops, which is considered satisfactory.

However, wishing to strengthen the security arrangements for the electoral process, the Supreme Defence Council recommended, in the light of a report made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, that the initiative for the establishment of this special European force should be endorsed.

The essentially deterrent nature of this contingent must be underscored.

Lastly, the Supreme Defence Council declared itself open to the idea of an African force, which had been proposed by the Economic Community of Central African States, also as a way of helping to ensure the security of the electoral process.

For the Supreme Defence Council:
(*Signed*) Adolphe **Onusumba Yemba**
Minister of Defence